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UN - MIDDLE EAST: Although the Security Council's Middle East debate has been postponed until Wednesday to permit further consultations, the major parties appear to be only hardening their positions.

Cairo is reportedly planning a request for immediate Israeli withdrawal from its territories. Egypt is said to have no interest in further mediation, only in an immediate commitment for Israeli withdrawal. An Arab diplomat has described President Sadat as under "unbearable pressure" to achieve something in this "final effort" at a peaceful settlement. While Cairo's position is not yet final and may have been exaggerated, Egypt is clearly considering far more controversial proposals than previously expected.

Israel continues to oppose any new UN mediatory instruments. UN Ambassador Tekoah has asked US representatives for a clear statement of willingness to veto proposals such as the mediatory committee favored by London. Tekoah did suggest, however, that Tel Aviv might accept mediation by UN Secretary-General Waldheim.

The Soviets have also informed US officials that they will oppose a mediatory committee. While concurring with the US preference for a simple reaffirmation of existing arrangements, they expressed some doubt that this would be possible. [REDACTED]

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ARGENTINA: Juan Peron's announcement that he is ending his 17 years of exile in Madrid and returning to Buenos Aires on 21 June will increase concern within the Argentine military. His decision to return so soon after the inauguration of Peronist President Hector Campora probably is in reply to the urging of followers, who consider the event a capstone to the Peronist electoral victory.

To make his return more palatable for many senior military officers who retain a strong hatred for him, Peron has avoided the ticklish question of whether he will be involved in day-to-day operations of the government. His first task, described by him vaguely as "a protocol task of adjustment," will be looking after the affairs of his Peronist movement. In addition, he is considering visits to all the countries of South America.

The military has said publicly that it will not interfere with the Peronist government, but the mere presence of the former dictator in Argentina will stimulate anxiety among those officers who are already suspicious of the new government.

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